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Man Charged in Spate of Knife Attacks on Nine People

A 19-year-old man was charged today with slashing the faces of nine people in a series of random knife attacks in recent weeks, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Lenrey Briones (dob 5/18/99) faces seven counts of aggravated mayhem, two counts of attempted aggravated mayhem and one count of attempted second-degree robbery, all felonies, in case BA476738. The charges include allegations that he personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, and that he had a prior felony conviction.

The defendant is expected to be arraigned today in Department 40 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Briones is accused of cutting the faces of nine people, including men, women and a 13-year-old boy, between March 20 and April 1 as he rode his bike in South Los Angeles, South Gate and Lynwood. The injuries allegedly caused permanent disfigurement to seven of the victims, prosecutors said.

In one instance, he also tried to take a victim's purse, prosecutors said.

Briones was convicted in September 2018 of attempted arson in case BA466339.

He faces a possible maximum sentence of life in state prison if convicted as charged. Prosecutors are recommending bail be set at \$9 million.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.